Regina-based coach heading to Games

A decade ago, track coach Carla Nicholls used her car as an office. After helping lead one young Canadian to a bronze at the Beijing Olympics, Nicholls is London-bound, fulfilling a dream she says has been with her since childhood PAGE 3

‘I LOVE HIM, I’M SO SORRY’

KRISTEN STEWART MAKES PUBLIC APOLOGY FOR CHEATING ON HER TWILIGHT CO-STAR PAGE 14

SASKATOON metro®

Thursday, July 26, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Canada needs to ‘embrace’ being an energy power: Wall

Controversy. Pipeline debate won’t overshadow other agenda items, premier says

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

Premier Brad Wall was in Lunenburg, N.S., Tuesday as part of the annual Council of the Federation gathering, which brings together the country’s premiers and territorial leaders annually.

One of the hot topics heading into this year’s event is the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline, which would run between B.C. and Alberta.

British Columbia Premier Christy Clark and Alberta Premier Alison Redford have been exchanging remarks about the environmental risks and revenue sharing of the project, with Clark making clear her position that the project will not get underway unless B.C. receives what she calls its fair share of revenue.

The controversy has caught the attention of Premier Wall, who told Metro on Tuesday that Saskatchewan’s position is to embrace the pipeline.

Quoted

“Certain interests in the country are seemingly embarrassed that we have this great resource, but as an emerging (energy) power you won’t find a more responsible country”

Premier Brad Wall

“Saskatchewan will be saying it’s time we embrace the fact that this country is an emerging energy power,” said Wall.

“Certain interests in the country are seemingly embarrassed that we have this great resource, but as an emerging power you won’t find a more responsible country amongst energy powers.”

Wall also said that Clark’s demand for more economic benefits from the Northern Gateway Pipeline sets a “dangerous precedent.”

“We ship a lot of product out to the ports in B.C. and the royalties of Saskatchewan belong to the people of Saskatchewan, so that’s where I guess we have a bit of a problem with what’s being proposed,” he said.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall arrives for a meeting with aboriginal leaders in Lunenburg, N.S., on Wednesday as part of the annual Council of the Federation gathering. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Do you know your premiers?

Take Metro’s test and see how familiar you are with the 13 leaders of our provinces and territories as they meet in Nova Scotia. PAGE 5

UN urges world to stop killing in Syria

With 19,000 dead in 16 months, and conflict heating up, Ki-moon says end must come PAGE 6

Geological Survey of Canada geologist Keith Dewing examines shatter cones and takes notes at the newly discovered Prince Albert impact crater on northwestern Victoria Island in the western Arctic. CONTRIBUTED/BRIAN PRATT

U of S tied to discovery of Arctic impact crater

'Once-in-a-lifetime' find. Scientists say impact crater is roughly 25 km wide

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

A professor at the University of Saskatchewan has played an important part in the discovery of Canada's 30th known impact crater, and he says the discovery was a "once-in-a-lifetime kind of thing."

Brian Pratt, a professor in the department of geological sciences with a specialty in stratigraphy, along with researchers from the Geological Survey of Canada, made the discovery two summers ago and has now submitted their research for publication.

"It was incredibly exciting. We flew to that area and we could see there was something really weird," said Pratt, noting distinct patterning in surrounding sedimentary rocks was the team's first clue.

"When we landed the helicopter, we literally just stepped out and right there were these things called shatter cones (a unique geological feature that can only be found in impact craters), so we knew what we had," he said.

Alongside being an important geological discovery, the impact crater will also provide scientists with more information about the Earth's crusts and what kind of impact it may have had on the extinction of animals in the geological past, as these craters are very rare.

"The record of astroblemes, or impact craters, on Earth is really sparse," said Pratt.

"We're a planet that has oceans and plates, so the plates collide and the ocean crust is recycled … so we should have thousands and thousands of craters, but we don't."

Pratt said the meteorite community will be very interested with the discovery, adding how other scientists could start doing more extensive research at the site.

Peek into the past

An impact crater is a geographical feature that can be found underneath a crater itself after the initial crater has eroded away.

- Even though the impact crater was 25 kilometres wide, Pratt said the crater itself could have been twice the size and using information from the impact crater, Pratt said he'd guess the meteorite itself would have been roughly "10 km wide, maybe more."

Likely out for the year

Bagg to undergo ACL surgery

Riders receiver Rob Bagg will be undergoing surgery for a torn left ACL and will likely miss the rest of the 2012 CFL season. Bagg had missed the 2011 season with a tear to his right ACL.

"I think that is the best thing for him and the club moving forward," said head coach Corey Chamblin "I am fairly positive that he will make it back next year." METRO

Recruited workers

Irish immigrants laid off

PCL Construction laid off 50 pipefitters, 20 of whom are Irish immigrants recruited at a targeted immigration mission earlier this year.

PCL spokesman Mike Long says that the layoffs were due to an unforeseeable gap in the construction schedule. "Obviously it's not the ideal situation and we understand," he said. "It's a big step to come here, and it's a big step for us to go through that process to get them here." METRO

Two people charged

Drug bust in Pelican Narrows

Two people are facing charges of possession for the purpose of trafficking in Pelican Narrows after a bust by the RCMP. On July 19, officers executed a search warrant at a residence in Pelican Narrows, where a large quantity of marijuana and bootleg alcohol was found. A 29-year-old female and a 33-year-old male have been charged. METRO

PAT FIACCO

Regina's mayor heads to London for the Summer Games

THE POLITICS OF BOXING

Most of Regina's citizens don't know their mayor, Pat Fiacco, can throw a mean right-hook.

Before becoming mayor in 2000, Fiacco was an amateur boxer. He's now in London performing the role of deputy technical director of boxing for the Summer Games.

"It's an absolute privilege and an honour. To participate in two Olympic Games is a dream," said Fiacco via email from London.

Fiacco, whose favorite boxer is Sugar Ray Leonard, also attended the 2004 Athens Olympics as a referee.

He discovered boxing 38 years ago after accepting an impromptu invitation from a friend to go check out the boxing ring.

"As soon as I set foot in the Laird Gym — the Regina Boxing Club — I knew the sport was for me. Within four weeks of training I had my first bout in Chinook, Montana," said Fiacco.

Fiacco agreed civic politics and boxing share some similarities.

"Boxing taught me to respect my opponent, and for the most part, my opponent in boxing respects you back. In civic politics, I have always respected those that oppose my point of view. I may not (always) agree with them, but I'm always respectful of them."

DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

Regina Mayor Pat Fiacco, the Olympics' deputy technical director of boxing, poses in front of the Olympic rings at the athletes' village in London. CONTRIBUTED

Mobile news

The world's last Arctic refuge is under attack. Scan the code to see a slideshow of the vulnerable animals who live there.

SUPPLIED/CLAUSE ANDERSON

CARLA NICHOLLS

Former U of R coach Nicholls searches for Olympic glory

FROM COACHING OUT OF A CAR TO THE OLYMPIC PODIUM

DORIAN GEIGER
dorian.geiger@metronews.ca

Before track and field became a mainstay collegiate sport in Saskatchewan, Carla Nicholls was forced to use her car as an office while assuming the head-coaching duties of the University of Regina track program.

Ten years later, Nicholls' thankless work behind Saskatchewan's track-and-field scenes as a coach has paid off. After helping lead Canada's Priscilla Lopes-Schliep to a bronze medal at the Beijing Olympic Summer Games in 2008, Nicholls is headed to London's Olympics.

"The dream of being at the Olympic Games has been in my heart since as long as I can remember. I truly believe there is no other event that is able to grab the attention of the entire world," said Nicholls via email from Kamen, Germany.

When Nicholls started coaching at the U of R in 2001, the position was unpaid and boasted just 17 athletes. Nicholls expanded the program's athlete base to roughly 90 in just a few years.

Best moments

"If I can help just one athlete to be better at a skill and, even more importantly, to be a better person, then I have done my job and that inspires me to continue on." Carla Nicholls

A former heptathlete, Nicholls said she had had her heart set on being an Olympic athlete since childhood.

"I pretended I was in the Olympic games in my backyard for as long as I remember. Eventually, I realized my love for track and field and my desire to be an Olympian was not a reality."

Nicholls, also a nurse, will work with Canadian athletes Mike Mason and Derek Drouin (men's high jump), Sarah Wells (women's 400-metre hurdles), Melanie Blouin (women's pole vault), Damian Warner (men's decathlon) and Saskatchewan product Brianne Theisen (women's heptathlon) in London.

What do you think about Saskatchewan's representation at the Olympics?

"We have the very talented Brianne Theisen, a very wonderful person and a fantastic athlete. She has been very successful. I can't wait to see what she can actually do if she puts it all together. I think she may open a few eyes in the world."

What's the most inspiring moment you've had as a coach?

"When I can help an athlete on or off the track is an inspiring moment for me. If I can help just one athlete to be better at a skill and, even more importantly, to be a better person, then I have done my job."

Follow Dorian Geiger on Twitter @dgiegs

DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

NANCY BRAWLEY

Brawley heads to sixth Olympic Summer Games as diving judge

SHE'S OUR VERY OWN DIVING DECIDER

It will be 62-year-old Saskatchewan native Nancy Brawley's sixth Olympics experience when she travels to London for the Summer Games to judge diving. Brawley said the experience hasn't gotten old.

"You're in awe of everything that's going on and you're just really, really happy to be there and be able to be at the Olympics," she said.

Despite her diving career ending decades ago, Brawley has remained active in Saskatchewan, Canadian and international diving circles in every capacity possible. She competed as a diver in the 1968 and 1972 Summer Olympics, in Mexico City and Munich, respectively.

Part of the job

"There are always going to be some coaches and some athletes that didn't like what you did. **Nancy Brawley** on whether divers ever scorned her for giving poor scores

From there, she became a diving broadcaster at the 1976 Montreal Olympics and a diving team leader for the 2004 Athens and 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Brawley became a diving judge in the 1970s and she has played a key role in implementing new guidelines for judging diving in Canada. She's also been inducted into the Canadian Aquatic Hall of the Fame and both Alberta and Ontario Sports Halls' of Fame.

Brawley's Olympic memories are many and mostly good. However, the Munich Massacre of 1972, when Palestinian terrorists took 11 Israeli athletes and coaches hostage in the Olympic Athlete's Village, subsequently killing them, remains a terribly vivid recollection for Brawley.

"I couldn't believe it happened. I was really upset it happened. For something as sacred as the Olympics are from a sporting perspective it was a bad experience," Brawley described.

This will be the only opportunity Brawley will have to judge at the Olympics, as diving judges over 65 are not permitted to oversee events.

What's the most difficult aspect of being a judge?

"Making a split-second decision on a score that took less than two seconds to perform, and then have your score up and registered within five seconds. You have to have a huge amount of knowledge in the back of your brain."

Have divers ever scorned you for doling out poor scores?

"There are always going to be some coaches and some athletes that didn't like what you did. That's just part of the job."

What got you into diving?

"We lived across the street from the pool and there were six kids in our family."

DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

LGBT

Scots legalizing same-sex marriage

Scotland's government has announced plans to legalize same-sex marriages.

Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said Wednesday that legislation permitting the marriages would soon be introduced.

The measure has backing from the major Scottish political parties. It follows a public consultation on the issue.

When enacted, Scotland could become the first part of the U.K. to allow same-sex marriages.

The U.K. government has conducted a public consultation on legalizing same-sex marriages, and it has the backing of Prime Minister David Cameron. But U.K. officials are waiting for the results of the public consultation before taking further steps. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. ingenuity

Use of legal synthetic drugs up

People are inventing so many new, legal ways to get high that U.S. lawmakers can't seem to keep up.

Over the past two years, the country has seen a surge in the use of synthetic drugs made of legal chemicals that mimic the dangerous effects of cocaine, amphetamines and other illegal stimulants. Some are imported cheaply from China or India.

The drugs are often sold at small, independent stores in misleading packaging that suggests common household items like bath salts, incense and plant food. But the substances are powerful, mind-altering drugs that have been linked to bizarre and violent behaviour across the country. Law-enforcement officials refer to the drugs collectively as "bath salts," though they have nothing in common with the toiletries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

National security

Surveillance info no longer public

The curtains at Canada's most secretive federal agency have been drawn a little tighter.

The government has quietly stopped telling Canadians about the annual priorities of the national electronic eavesdropping agency, meaning scant details of its mission that were once made public are now classified.

Communications Security Establishment Canada, with headquarters in a non-descript building in Ottawa's south end, has the dual role of monitoring foreign computer, satellite, radio and telephone traffic, as well as helping protect federal computer systems. It has a staff of more than 2,000 and a budget of about $400 million.

For years, a section of the Defence Department's annual plans and priorities report spelled out the agency's priorities. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gun sales surge across U.S.

Colorado theatre massacre. While the shootings have stirred debate on gun control, Washington stays mum

Firearms sales are surging after last week's Colorado theatre massacre as buyers fear that politicians may use the shootings to seek new restrictions on owning weapons.

Some Democratic lawmakers in Congress cited the shooting as evidence of the need for tougher gun-control laws — particularly a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines. Congress, however, hasn't passed strict legislation in more than a decade, and leaders in Washington show no sign of bringing up such measures anytime soon.

In Colorado, where Friday's shooting killed 12, gun sales jumped in the three days that followed. The state approved background checks for 2,887 people who wanted to purchase a firearm — 25 per cent more than the average Friday-to-Sunday period in 2012 and 43 per cent more than the same interval the week prior.

Dick Rutan, owner of Gunners Den in Arvada, Colo., said requests for concealed-weapon training certification "are off the hook." His course in gun safety, required for certification for a concealed-weapons permit in Colorado, has drawn double the interest since Friday.

"They want ... the ability to protect themselves and their families if they are in a situation like what happened in the movie theatre," Rutan said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Other parts of the U.S.

- **Florida.** Saw 2,386 background checks, up 14 per cent from a week prior.
- **Oregon.** Sales up 11 per cent over last month.
- **California.** Background checks up 10 per cent over last month.

Actor Christian Bale and his wife, Sibi Blazic, are seen Tuesday at a memorial dedicated to Veronica Moser-Sullivan, 6, the youngest of the 12 victims of Friday's mass shooting in Aurora, Colo. TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eldest victim

First funeral held

A dad who took his teenage children to the new Batman movie and was killed when a gunman opened fire was mourned Wednesday, the first memorial service for a victim of the shootings.

Fifty-one-year-old Gordon Cowden was the oldest of the 12 people killed. His teenage children escaped unharmed.

A family statement described him as a "true Texas gentleman" who loved the outdoors and owned his own business.

Funerals were planned in towns from San Antonio, home of aspiring sportscaster Jessica Ghawi, to Crystal Lake, Ill., the hometown of navy intelligence officer John Thomas Larimer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korea. Mystery woman wife of leader

North Korea ended weeks of speculation Wednesday by confirming that the mystery woman beside young leader Kim Jong Un at recent public events is indeed his wife, "comrade Ri Sol Ju." The news was buried in a state TV report about Kim's tour of an amusement park, delivered casually by a newscaster who gave no details about Ri, including how long she and Kim have been married.

Kim, who inherited rule of North Korea from his father, Kim Jong Il, seven months ago, has been seen with Ri at a concert, a kindergarten visit and other events recently, but state media did not mention her before now, fueling widespread speculation about her identity.

Analysts said the announcement was a calculated move by Kim and his advisers as they forge the image of the 20-something leader who took power following the December death of Kim Jong Il.

"Kim Jong Un is breaking with his father's secrecy-shrouded leadership," said Lim Eul-chul, a North Korea expert at South Korea's Kyungnam University. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ri Sol Ju, Kim Jong Un's wife. KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY VIA KOREA NEWS SERVICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

England. Boy flies to Rome without ticket, passport

The 11-year-old boy didn't have a passport, didn't have a ticket, didn't have a boarding pass and got all the way from England to Italy on his own.

For him, the 1,700-kilometre journey was a great adventure — and his excitement led to his discovery.

"He was chatting away about being off by himself," and passengers alerted the cabin crew, Russell Craig, a spokesman for Manchester Airport, said Wednesday.

The boy, who is known to be fascinated by transport and has a history of catching free rides on trains and buses, was sent back to Manchester on the return flight, Craig said.

For the airport, airline Jet2.com and the British government, Tuesday's incident was an embarrassing breach of security days before the start of the Olympics.

Quoted

"It's a security breach, if a non-threatening security breach."

Ben Vogel, HIS Jane's Airport Review

Ben Vogel, editor of HIS Jane's Airport Review, said he wasn't familiar with all the details of the incident but said it's a fundamental security principle that people aren't allowed aboard an aircraft if they have no right to be there.

"It's not good, is it?" he said. "It is a security breach, if a non-threatening security breach."

An undisclosed number of security staff employed by the airport and airline employees have been suspended while authorities investigate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal. Public funeral for Lin to be held today

A public funeral will be held today for Jun Lin, whose slaying grabbed national attention after his body was dismembered and parts were mailed to two Canadian cities.

Concordia University spokeswoman Clea Desjardins says the service will be held at a Montreal funeral home.

Lin studied computer science at the university, which is helping raise funds for his family and is setting up an award in his memory.

A public memorial was held last weekend in which his anguished mother talked about how the tragedy had devastated the family.

Lin's dismembered torso was found May 29 stuffed in a suitcase that had been dumped in the trash outside a Montreal apartment building.

The same day, one of his feet was discovered in a package mailed to the Conservative party in Ottawa and a hand was found in another package in a Canada Post warehouse in the national capital.

His other hand and foot were discovered on June 5 in packages mailed to two Vancouver schools. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The suspect

- Luka Rocco Magnotta, a small-time porn actor, was arrested June 4 in Berlin after an international manhunt.
- He was extradited to Montreal on June 18 and charged with Lin's first-degree murder the next day. He has pleaded not guilty

As Canada's premiers meet in Halifax this week for the Council of the Federation, we thought it would be fun to see how well you know our provincial and territorial leaders
There are 13 in total – 10 provinces and three territories
Take the test and see how you do. The answers are in the bottom corner of the page

1 Did you know? Is a certified official for both hockey and swimming. CONTRIBUTED

2 Did you know? Is the youngest premier in Canada. CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

3 Did you know? Is a former university professor of social work. METRO FILE

4 Did you know? Won the Economic Developer of the Year award in 1999 for his province. METRO FILE

5 Did you know? Was the youngest federal cabinet minister in Canadian history in 1986. THE CANADIAN PRESS

6 Did you know? Owns an arts and crafts store and used to be a reporter for CBC. CONTRIBUTED

7 Did you know? Went to university for social work but never graduated. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Can you name that premier?

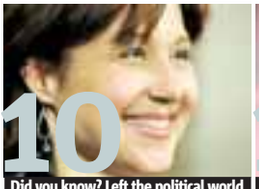
Scoring box

How many could you identify?

- **13.** You should run for Prime Minister.
- **10-12.** Canadian politics is your thing.
- **7-9.** Might want to consider reading the newspaper a bit more.
- **4-6.** Sign-up for a Canadian politics course — now.
- **1-3.** Good enough to warrant a Senate appointment.
- **0.** Sad. You couldn't even name your own premier.

8 Did you know? Married his high school sweetheart in 1980. THE CANADIAN PRESS

9 Did you know? Was the first person in their family to attend university. METRO FILE



10 Did you know? Left the political world for five years to host an afternoon radio talk show. METRO FILE

11 Did you know? Raises purebred Hereford cattle in his spare time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

12 Did you know? Was appointed to administer Afghanistan's first parliamentary elections in 2005. METRO FILE

13 Did you know? Also president of a recreational hockey league and a golf club. CONTRIBUTED

Answers

1. Darrell Pasloski – Yukon
2. Robert Ghiz – Prince Edward Island
3. Gregory Selinger – Manitoba
4. Brad Wall – Saskatchewan
5. Jean Charest – Quebec
6. Eva Aariak – Nunavut
7. Kathy Dunderdale – Newfoundland and Labrador
8. Dalton McGuinty – Ontario
9. Darrell Dexter – Nova Scotia
10. Christy Clark – British Columbia
11. David Alward – New Brunswick
12. Alison Redford – Alberta
13. Bob McLeod – Northwest Territories

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CERN. Ex-U.S. congresswoman makes first trip abroad since getting shot in the head

Gabrielle Giffords, centre THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/CERN

Former U.S. congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords toured the European particle physics laboratory Wednesday, cheerfully facing reporters but saying little during her first trip abroad since being shot in the head last year.

Giffords was accompanying her husband, retired astronaut Mark Kelly, on a visit to the European Center for Nuclear Research, two days after she rode a cable car up into the French Alps. The lab, known as CERN, had assembled a $2-billion cosmic ray detector that Kelly and his team carried to the International Space Station in May 2011.

That mission came just months after Giffords, a lawmaker from Arizona, was shot by a gunman in a Jan. 8, 2011, rampage that killed six and wounded 13 outside a Tucson supermarket. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A damaged vehicle from clashes between Free Syrian Army soldiers and Syrian government troops is seen at the border town of Azaz, north of Aleppo, on Tuesday. Fighting stretched into its fifth day on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/TURKPIX

Ban Ki-moon urges world to stop the 'slaughter' of Syrians

UN. General-secretary says world failed to prevent similar tragedy in Bosnia, calls for Assad to step down

UN General-Secretary Ban Ki-moon said Wednesday the world must unite in its response to Syria's civil war and do all it can to stop what he called the slaughter taking place there.

Speaking in Sarajevo, Ban said other countries intervened in Libya and the Ivory Coast to stop widespread killing there, but failed during Bosnia's 1992-95 war to prevent Bosnian Serbs from killing more than 8,000 Muslim Bosniaks in Srebrenica while the town was officially under UN protection.

But Ban did not say in his speech exactly what the international community should do in Syria beyond already calling for Syrian President Bashar Assad to step down. He also did not criticize Russia and China by name for vetoing a Western-backed UN resolution threatening Assad's regime with sanctions.

"We must work to prevent and respond to grave violations of international humanitarian law. That is why we acted in Libya. We acted in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). Today, the international community is being tested in Syria," Ban said in a speech to Bosnia's Parliament.

As he spoke, Syrian tanks attacked insurgents in Aleppo, Syria, in an effort to end a five-day rebel fight to take the city. Activists say that Syria's 16-month-old uprising has killed 19,000 people.

The UN chief urged the international community to act together to take what he called "meaningful action."

"Without unity, there will be more bloodshed. More deadlock means more dead," Ban said. "That is why, here in the heart of a healing Bosnia and Herzegovina, I make a plea to the world: Do not delay. Come together. Act. Act now to stop the slaughter in Syria."

An international airstrike campaign in Libya last year helped its rebels end the 40-year erratic leadership of strongman Moammar Gadhafi. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Quite simply, we must do better at seeing atrocities coming and telling it like it is. We cannot take refuge behind strong words and weak action."

Ban Ki-moon in a speech to Bosnia's parliament

Other reactions

- **United States.** The White House says the Syrian government's assault on the city of Aleppo with tanks and airplanes illustrates what it called "the depth of depravity" by Assad.
- **Israel.** Citizens rushed to get government-issue gas masks Wednesday, the latest sign of mounting fears that Syria's chemical weapons stockpiles could be used against them.
- **Turkey.** Syria's neighbour tightened its borders — sealing them to trucks — but said refugees will be allowed through.

Coahuila state

Mine blast kills seven in Mexico

Emergency personnel recovered the bodies of seven miners killed in a gas explosion Wednesday at a coal mine in northern Mexico. The miners suffered severe burns and were crushed by falling rock. The explosion occurred at the "El Progreso" mine, located about 150 kilometres southwest of Eagle Pass, Texas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deadly floods

Beijing mayor likely to still be promoted

Beijing's mayor is likely still on track to be promoted to China's powerful decision-making body despite public questioning of the city's handling of massive floods that left at least 37 dead.

The floods were an embarrassment for Beijing, which spent billions of dollars modernizing, while apparently neglecting drainage systems. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Diaz. Mom of man slain by police condemns violent demonstrations

Genevieve Huizar, third from left DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The mother of an unarmed man who was shot by Anaheim, Calif., police officers has condemned violent protests against the killing, saying Wednesday she did not want them to become her son's legacy.

Her news conference followed a fourth day of violent protests over Saturday's police shooting of Manuel Diaz and the Sunday police shooting of another man who fired at police during a pursuit.

"I watched as my son took his last breath. I watched as his heart stopped beating for the last time," Genevieve Huizar said, breaking into sobs. "Please, please, please stop the violence." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Europe

More circumcision restrictions: Rabbis

A group of rabbis warned Wednesday that the Jewish practice of infant male circumcision could face further restrictions in Europe after some hospitals in Austria and Switzerland suspended the procedure by citing a German court ruling that it could amount to criminal bodily harm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Band members

Man charged in hazing death denied bond

A judge has denied bond to a former Florida A&M University band member charged in the hazing death of drum major Robert Champion.

Champion died last November after being beaten aboard a bus in Orlando. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Post-Assad Syria' talks underway: Baird

John Baird THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird says discussions about a "post-Assad Syria" are underway, including what to do about the stockpile of chemical and biological weapons held by the country's regime.

Baird, who met Wednesday with Syrian and Syrian-Canadian human-rights activists, said Canada is working with its allies to ensure the weapons don't fall into the wrong hands as the conflict reaches a climax.

"We're concerned about two things: them being used against the Syrian people, and, two, we're concerned about their security both before and after the regime would fall," Baird said.

The wrong hands could belong to Islamic extremists, Baird suggested, including al-Qaida cells that have reportedly infiltrated the clashes between the regime of Bashar al-Assad and rebel forces, or other terrorist organizations.

The Israeli government has expressed concern that Lebanon's Hezbollah might try to secure some of the weapons of mass destruction. There has been a run on gas masks inside of Israel. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Greek athlete expelled over racist tweets

Track. Olympian's apologies come too late as politicians call for her removal

Triple jumper Voula Papachristou was expelled from Greece's Olympic team Wednesday for her comments on Twitter mocking African immigrants and expressing support for a far-right party.

The Hellenic Olympic Committee said Wednesday that Papachristou had been excluded from the team "for statements contrary to the values and ideas of the Olympic movement."

"It's the same as violating fair play," Isidoros Kouvelos, the head of Greece's Olympic mission, told Greece's Skai. "We are not here just to get medals, but to promote the Olympic ideals, to show our character."

Papachristou's Twitter account contained several retweets and links promoting the views of Golden Dawn, a formerly marginal extreme-right party.

Damage control

"We are not here just to get medals, but to promote the Olympic ideals."

Isidoros Kouvelos, head of Greece's Olympic mission

But it was her attempt at a joke Sunday that went viral. Commenting on the widely reported appearance of Nile-virus-carrying mosquitoes in Athens, Papachristou wrote: "With so many Africans in Greece, the West Nile mosquitoes will be getting home food!!!"

After the ensuing uproar, Greece's Olympic committee banned their athletes from using social media to express personal opinions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece's Voula Papachristou at the women's triple-jump final at the European Athletics Championships in Helsinki. MATT DUNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

London Games. Saudi women will be first from their country to compete

The two women who will become the first female athletes to compete for Saudi Arabia at the Olympics have walked very different paths that will meet at the London Games.

One is a distance runner raised in California who has spent little time in Saudi Arabia but hopes to become a "big inspiration" for women in the kingdom, which severely restricts women in public life and effectively bans them from sports.

The other practises judo, but she has hardly ever left Saudi Arabia and has never competed.

While Sarah Attar was running cross-country for her high school in the United States, Wojdan Ali Seraj Abdulrahim Shahrkhani was watching judo on television and listening to her brothers talk about it.

Then one day she told her father, a judo coach and an international referee in the sport, that she wanted to train.

"She said, 'I want to be like you, I want to become very good,'" her father, Ali Seraj Abdulrahim Shahrkhani, told The Associated Press. "I said, 'OK, you want to train? I will coach you at home.'"

Saudi Arabia is allowing them to compete after the International Olympic Committee and human-rights groups put intense pressure on the kingdom to end its practice of sending all-male teams to the Olympics.

After Qatar and Brunei announced they would send women, Saudi Arabia would have been the only country with no women on the team. Instead, the London Games will be the first in Olympic history in which women are represented in every national delegation.

Women in Saudi Arabia cannot register for sports clubs or league competitions. They are banned from entering national trials, which makes it impossible for them to qualify for international competitions, including the Olympics.

Neither Attar or Shahrkhan technically qualified, but they received special invitations from the IOC "based on the quality of the athletes," IOC chief Jacques Rogge said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympic thrift

Egyptian athletes sport knockoffs

The tracksuits and bags of Egypt's Olympic team are emblazoned with the familiar Nike and Adidas logos, and the country's committee chairman says that's good enough — even though they're fakes.

"We signed with a Chinese distributor in light of Egypt's economic situation," Gen. Mahmoud Ahmed Ali told The Associated Press Wednesday.

Ali said the real thing was just too expensive, and the state of Egypt's battered finances led him to opt for the counterfeit gear, which he said was "sufficient."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korea

Organizers apologize for flag display mix-up

London Olympic organizers mistakenly displayed the South Korean flag on a jumbo screen instead of North Korea's before a women's soccer match Wednesday, prompting the North Koreans to refuse to take the field for nearly an hour.

The flag flap began during player introductions when a North Korean player was introduced along with a shot of the South Korean flag.

The match against Colombia was delayed for more than an hour, and organizers apologized for the error. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Loblaw to open 700 Joe Fresh stores in the U.S.

Grocery chain. Canadian brand announces partnership with U.S. retailer J.C. Penney as it ramps up its fashion line

Loblaw Companies Ltd. plans to unveil about 700 Joe Fresh stores in the U.S. next year as Canada's largest grocery chain works to ramp up sales of its hip fashion line to help bolster earnings that dropped by 19 per cent in its most recent quarter.

Loblaw's Joe Fresh clothing brand announced Wednesday it has formed a partnership with U.S. retailer J.C. Penney Co. to open 700 stores in the U.S. in 2013 that will run for four years.

The move comes amid a massive overhaul of Loblaw's information-technology and supply-chain software system that is set to cost the company billions.

The capital-intensive rollout, along with a hypercompetitive grocery market in Canada, has eaten into its bottom line.

Loblaw reported second-quarter net earnings of $159 million, or 56 cents per diluted share, down almost 19 per cent from the $197 million earned in the same period in 2011.

That missed analysts' calls for earnings of 62 cents per share by five cents.

Shares fell 1.5 per cent, or 47 cents, to close at $31.45 on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

"While I'm not happy that earnings are down, we are on plan," said Loblaw president Vicente Trius on a conference call Wednesday.

Revenue came in at $7.37 billion for the period ended June 16, an increase of 1.3 per cent from the $7.28 billion over the second quarter of 2011.

Retail sales and same-store sales grew 1.1 per cent and 0.2 per cent, respectively. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Across Canada

Loblaw, a subsidiary of George Weston Ltd., operates more than 1,000 stores across Canada under numerous banners, including Great Canadian Super Store, Provigo, No Frills and Atlantic Superstore.

- The company employs 138,000 full- and part-time workers.

Mountain Lion makes leap to Mac computers

A customer looks at the new OS X Mountain Lion operating system at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif., Wednesday. Apple Inc. released its new operating system for Mac computers on Wednesday, with features borrowed from mobile devices and a tighter integration with online file storage. The new software narrows the gap between the PC and phone software packages, making Mac personal computers work more like iPhones and iPads. PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agriculture

Drought predicted to push food prices

The U.S. government is projecting the record drought gripping half the country will help push food prices up by three per cent to four per cent next year.

Figures released by the Department of Agriculture on Wednesday show that beef prices are expected to see the biggest jump at four per cent to five per cent.

Dairy product prices are expected to climb 3.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent. Poultry prices are expected to rise three per cent to four per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 98.5¢ US (+0.5¢)

TSX 11,492.51 (+25.56)

OIL $88.97 US (+47¢)

GOLD $1,608.10 US (+$31.90)

Natural gas: $3.07 US (-11.7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,676.05 (+58.73)

Lawsuit. Disability-rights advocates sue Wal-Mart

Disability-rights advocates filed a federal lawsuit Wednesday against Wal-Mart Stores Inc., claiming the retail giant refuses to make payment machines accessible to customers who use wheelchairs and scooters.

The plaintiffs allege that Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart knowingly placed point-of-sale terminals beyond the reach of disabled customers at many of its more than 200 stores in California — in violation of state law and the U.S. Americans with Disabilities Act. The lack of accessible payment devices makes it difficult or impossible for disabled customers to independently pay for goods with a credit or debit card, according to the lawsuit. Many must ask cashiers to read the charges or enter their personal identification number. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In defence

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Ashley Hardie could not comment on the lawsuit itself, but she said the company is committed to serving customers with disabilities.

Oil. Industry minister to review $15B US Nexen bid

Canada's industry minister isn't dropping any hints about whether he will approve or reject a Chinese state-owned company's multibillion-dollar bid for Calgary-based Nexen Inc.

And just like Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Christian Paradis is warning Canadians not to jump to any conclusions about which way it will go.

Paradis says he'll wait until he reviews an application from China National Offshore Oil Company — also known as CNOOC Ltd. — before deciding whether to green-light the $15.1-billion US transaction.

CNOOC's proposed all-cash takeover of oil-and-gas producer Nexen was a friendly bid, offering shareholders a 60 per cent premium on their holdings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The bottom line

"It has to be for the net benefit of this country. This is the bottom line here."

Industry Minister Christian Paradis on a Chinese company's bid for Nexen Inc.

Trade. Canada pushes for relations with Myanmar

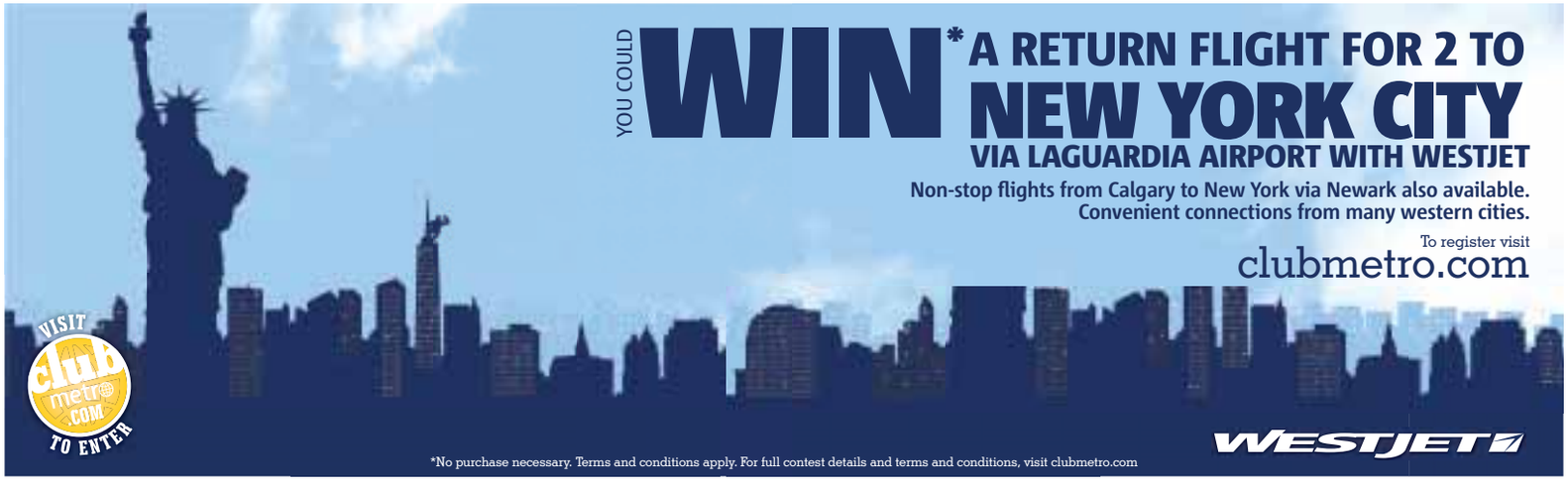
After years of imposing tough sanctions, Canada announced a push Wednesday to open up economic relations with Myanmar, saying International Trade Minister Ed Fast and a delegation of business leaders would travel to the strategically placed Southeast Asian nation in September.

Fast will be the first cabinet minister to visit the country since trade sanctions were eased at the end of April and Canada announced it would open an embassy in the capital, Rangoon, in recognition of Myanmar's moves to improve human rights and democracy.

However pro-democracy and human-rights groups are warning that Myanmar is still facing serious human-rights issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Closed door

Firms at a closed-door round table meeting in Toronto included Research in Motion, SNC-Lavalin, Bombardier and consulting firms Nextep Strategy Inc., Prudential Consulting Inc. and Deloitte.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A PREVIEW OF OLYMPIC PROPORTIONS

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

How will London cope this week as it's hit with pollution, traffic congestion and rabid media attention for the first time in history?

This and other questions will be answered as the Triple-X Olympiad officially gets underway Friday. We don't trust you to watch the right events and have the proper emotional reaction to them, so here's a list of the biggest storylines we demand you watch for.

Are they ready? The Olympics are home to some dependable traditions, and one of the most consistent is the Lamenting of the Games. Before every Olympics, the media make it sound like the runners will have their times slowed by wet cement and divers will be jumping into empty swimming pools, their falls broken by contractors desperately trying to get the host city ready.

In London, the biggest problem appears to be security, which was thrown into shambles when it was revealed that a key security firm didn't have enough people and was handing out sashes that said "hall monitor" to anybody who asked.

Now they've called in the army, because nothing makes people feel secure like soldiers in the streets.

If things work out, the media will call it a miracle of Olympic proportions. If things don't work out, the media will call it a catastrophe of Olympic proportions. (We're on tight deadlines.)

Open questions. The opening ceremony has become an important show of national pride for the host country. Can Britain's gymnasts and interpretive dancers do justice to Britain's food, emotion and weather? One organizer gave a tantalizing hint when he promised "more shades of grey than you've ever seen."

All-time record? If American swimmer Michael Phelps dominates, he'll become the most decorated Olympian ever. This will be a major embarrassment for Canada, because Phelps will surpass the total distance travelled by Canada's submarine fleet.

Hoop dreams. It promises to be a special moment when the world puts aside its differences, joins hands and prays for the humiliating defeat of the U.S. basketball team. The chance to cheer against Kobe Bryant and LeBron James simultaneously is rare and should be cherished.

Star watch. World-famous athletes won't be the only celebrities, as entertainment superstars descend on London including uber-couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Watch for North Korean athletes to wander near Jolie in hopes she'll adopt them.

Whither Canada? Sportswriters went all gooey during the Vancouver Games about how Canada had finally come of age — just like we did during Vimy Ridge, the Second World War, Expo '67, Summit Series '72 and that "Joe Canadian" Molson commercial. I thought that was mostly hooey because Canada won the most gold medals; it's easy to stand up loud and proud when you're winning. Since Canada doesn't do as well at the Summer Olympics, here's our big chance to reveal our true patriotism. Otherwise we're just Phoenix Coyotes fans on a playoff run.

That said, I trust we'll see lots of Canadians standing on the podium. Assuming it's constructed on time.

Britain's government opted Tuesday to deploy 1,200 more troops to protect Olympic venues, a move that reflects a lack of confidence in a private security contractor. But let's not stop there. There's much more cause for concern — too much to keep track of — so we highlight the best of the worst. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Travelling in London an Olympic sport?

CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Summer Games

VIP lanes, the Tube cause delays

Wednesday saw an uncertain test of the British capital's Olympic transport plan, as lanes reserved for Olympic VIPs came into force two days before the start of the Games and the city's creaky subway system struggled with glitches.

Traffic jams blocked some of the main routes into the city as the wildly unpopular "Games Lanes" took effect. The 48 kilometres of lanes are to operate from 6 a.m. to midnight throughout the Games, and cars or taxi cabs that stray into them face a $200 US fine.

Thousands of London drivers have switched to public transport, only to encounter severe delays on several underground subway lines caused by power-supply problems and signal failures. Severe delays were reported Wednesday on the city's Central and Hammersmith subway lines.

Transportation is London's weak spot: Traffic often clogs up on its narrow, historic roads, bus schedules can change at a moment's notice, and the famous Underground suffers from daily delays and infrastructure that in parts is more than a century old.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Criticism over designation

- The International Olympic Committee had specifically demanded VIP road lanes be created after learning lessons from previous Games.
- In London, some of the loudest opposition to the Olympic VIP lanes has come from the city's cabbies, who have staged two recent demonstrations that brought central London traffic to a standstill. They say being banned from Olympic lanes jeopardizes their business.

Hanging on a wire

Cable car stranded above Thames

Cable-car passengers got plenty of time to view London's sights after the system linking two Olympic venues broke down and left them stranded above the River Thames Wednesday.

The cable-car system, dubbed the Emirates Air Line, opened last month and links the 02 Arena in Greenwich — which will host Olympic basketball and gymnastics — and the ExCel exhibition centre, where boxing will take place. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metropolitan Panel

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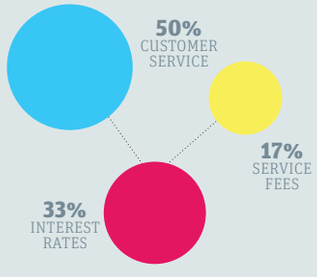
What's the most important factor in choosing a bank?



Twitter

@annieirwinx:
I really don't think people understand how much I miss #yxe. Especially when the only thing I had to worry about was dance moves and kids..

@roforsho:
The woman in head-to-toe Lululemon with the Kate Gosselin hair cut at Starbucks this morning makes me weep for the state of fashion in #yxe

@theshelshow:
Large animal running across Taylor by Circle Drive. Could be a deer or moose or elk or bear. #wishiknewthedifference #yxe

@Ashleighmattern:
Just learned that Saskatoon Writers' Coop president Jim Weseen passed away last week. It's a sad day for the #yxe writing community.

metro

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SCENE 2

It's like school, but way more fun

Persephone School of Theatre. Playing dress-up and make-believe can lead to surprisingly deep lessons

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

Typically, acting up in school is discouraged by teachers, but things run a little differently at Persephone School of Theatre.

An average day can include dressing-up, playing games and generally letting imaginations run wild. And while it may look like fun and games, there are some deeper lessons being learned, especially in the exploration division aimed at the youngest students.

"It's really a low pressure environment where students can come in and test the waters, see what they think of theatre," said Will Brooks, Persephone youth programming director.

"It focuses on the wonderful things that can come along with working in theatre; being comfortable in social situations, problem solving, speaking in front of people."

Older students explore ideas that are more closely related to the theatre itself such as writing and improv.

"We learn a play on our own, it's just a line but we have to add to it. So we make almost our own play," said theatre student Jordyn Sparks, adding she is enjoying spending part of her summer at school.

The School of Theatre program has been built slowly over the past few years by Brooks and Del Surjik, artistic director, but new sponsorship from PotashCorp has allowed it to grow, well, dramatically.

"We didn't want to step out and do things willy-nilly or not being able to provide the kind of quality of programming people have come to rely on us for," said Surjik. "So it took a while to put this together."

Surjik also stressed his desire to pay tribute to the legacy of his predecessor, the late Tibor Feheregyhazi, and his dedication to involving the city and its residents in the theatre. "I'm a big believer in the fact that these kids are part of our community, they're citizens," said Brooks. "So there's no reason why we shouldn't serve that part of our community."

Surjik says he can't wait to see some of these young performers grace the stage at the Remai Arts Centre or elsewhere, whether it's now or in the future.

"We're giving them a leg up," Surjik said. "I can look forward to years down the road, when I need someone in their 30s, knowing that our talent is out there and putting them on our stage."

For more information on Persephone School of Theatre call 384-7727.

Schedule

Young actors will be needed on the Persephone stage when The Sound of Music is performed November 21 through December 9. Here's a look at the schedule for the upcoming season:

- **The Importance of Being Earnest.** September 19 to October 7.
- **The Light in the Piazza.** October 24 to November 11.
- **The Sound of Music.** November 21 to December 9.
- **Shirley Valentine.** January 23 to February 10.
- **The Caretaker.** March 6 to March 24.
- **Sexy Laundry.** April 17 to May 5.

Persephone youth program director Will Brooks stands with students from the School of Theatre at an event to celebrate the launch of the program. SIMON HIATT/FOR METRO

On the web

TV's Sister Wives family challenges Utah bigamy law as unconstitutional

NEED A RIDE?
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Watch for another level of camaraderie

Emotional connection. Big cast has big friendships in new comedy about an alien invasion of suburban Ohio

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Ben Stiller, Johnny Pemberton and Jonah Hill star in The Watch. MELINDA SUE GORDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One of the benefits of doing an ensemble comedy is catching up with old friends. At least, that's how it was on The Watch for Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn, who co-star with Jonah Hill and Richard Ayoade as concerned citizens investigating what turns out to be an alien invasion in their suburban Ohio neighbourhood.

Stiller and Vaughn previously squared off in Dodgeball, but here they're playing something a bit chummier.

"I love working with these guys. It's great to work with the people who make you laugh and who are funnier," Stiller admits. "Vince and I had a really fun time working on Dodgeball together and it was exciting to have a chance to do something. It had been a while for us, so it was exciting to have a chance to do something new together."

Reunions aside, Stiller also enjoyed letting loose in a comedy that didn't have the same restrictions as his more family-friendly fare.

"The fun thing for me is to be a part of a movie where you don't have to worry," Stiller admits. "Being in an R-rated film, you can have a lot more freedom."

And that freedom doesn't just mean more violence and cursing, but it extends to how the characters are depicted as well, as the four men aren't forced into learning some sort of lesson or personal growth.

"I don't think it was about having it all sort of tied up in bow. It was more about these guys hanging out and how they affected each other, but it wasn't like about teaching lessons or anything," Stiller says. "I do think there is sort of, you know, an emotional connection these guys do have by ending up being together."

While Stiller, Vaughn and Hill are familiar faces to comedy audiences, the forth member of their neighbourhood watch might not be: British actor and director Richard Ayoade, who directed last year's Submarine (executive-produced by Stiller), admits he felt like he stuck out a bit in the cast.

"I've never been in a film, not really," Ayoade admits. "My wife said — and she's right — it's going to look like I won a competition to be in a film with movie stars. And there were several days when I was like, 'Why are Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn and Jonah Hill looking at me? Oh! I'm in a scene with them. I ought to start trying to act back.' It's very surreal and I'm a huge fan of these people. It was a great pleasure for me to get to somewhat bring down the film by being in it."

Vaughn, of course, thinks Ayoade's self-deprecation is misplaced.

"Richard is so funny. It was so fun, he brought such an original voice and great ideas and is just funny in the movie," Vaughn says. "You get a bunch of guys together from different walks of life and at the end of the day there's a lot of laughter and a lot of camaraderie."

The Watch

Vince Vaughn adjusting to being a parent

- **Daughters.** In The Watch, Vince Vaughn's character has a rather argumentative relationship with an unruly teenage daughter trying to grow up too fast. In real life, Vaughn has just welcomed his first daughter. So did the movie give him any premonitions of troubles to come? "My daughter is just 19, 20 months now, so I'm along away from that," he admits. "Thankfully I'm a long, long way from answering any of those questions as far as being protective. But I have encouraged her to get on some scooters — motor scooters — motorized vehicles. That kind of stuff. I threw her in the pool, but she swam so it's fine."

Lone Ranger remains a sore spot for some

Gyasi Ross grew up decades after the Lone Ranger aired on TV, but his friends would still call him Tonto when they teased him.

"Everybody understands who Tonto is, even if we hadn't seen the show, and we understood it wasn't a good thing," said Ross, a member of the Blackfeet Nation in Montana who lives and has family in the Suquamish Tribe, outside Seattle.

"Why else would you tease someone with that?"

The making of a new Lone Ranger Disney movie, and the announcement that Johnny Depp is playing sidekick Tonto, have reawakened feelings about a character that has drawn much criticism over the years as being a Hollywood creation guilty of spreading stereotypes.

The film is still in production, but Indian Country has been abuzz about it for months, with many sharing opinions online and a national Native publication running an occasional series on the topic.

Quote

"I'm worried about the Tonto figure becoming a parody or a commercialized figure that doesn't have any dimension or depth. Or consideration for contemporary context of Native Americans."

Natanya Ann Pulley

Some Native Americans welcome the new movie, which is slated for release next summer. Parts were filmed on the Navajo Nation with the tribe's support, and an Oklahoma tribe recently made Depp an honorary member.

But for others, the Lone Ranger represents a lingering sore spot — one that goes back to the 1950s television version of Tonto, who spoke in broken English, wore buckskin and lacked any real cultural traits.

Depp's role attracted particular attention in April when producer Jerry Bruckheimer tweeted a picture of the actor in his Tonto costume. He had on black and white face paint, an intense gaze, a black bird attached to his head and plenty of decorative feathers.

"The moment it hit my Facebook newsfeed, the updates from my friends went nutso," wrote Natanya Ann Pulley, a doctorate student at University of Utah, in an essay for the online magazine McSweeney's.

For Pulley and her friends, the portrayal of Native Americans in Western movies is getting old.

"I'm worried about the Tonto figure becoming a parody or a commercialized figure that doesn't have any dimension or depth. Or consideration for contemporary context of Native Americans," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Johnny Depp, left, as Tonto, a spirit warrior on a personal quest, who joins forces in a fight for justice with Armie Hammer, as John Reid, a lawman who has become a masked avenger in the Lone Ranger.
PETER MOUNTAIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bohemian style ... well sort of

Versatile wardrobe. Kate Hudson's closet brims with designer dresses, turquoise, pajamas and photo-shoot favourites

Despite having a closet that most women would envy, Kate Hudson likes staying in her PJs for as long as she can into the day.

Mornings, she says, are her favourite time with her sons — and that means a lot of pajama time.

"I love to see them wake up with their sleepy faces. It's when you see their personalities and how they deal with the morning," she says.

Bingham, 1, has blond hair that's long in some places, short in others, the 33-year-old actress says, and the morning is when it all sticks up. Her eight-year-old son, Ryder, asks for "5 more minutes" in bed but still eagerly comes to the table for breakfast.

"I like happy mornings. I grew up with happy mornings," says Hudson, the daughter of Goldie Hawn. "My parents were up and active and making breakfast, and that's what I try to do, but I usually do it in my nightie."

When it's time to get dressed on days she's not working, there are three choices, especially if she knows the paparazzi she doesn't love are lingering: She'll stay at home in comfy clothes that are only slightly elevated from her bedtime get-up, pull out the sunglasses with the biggest lenses she can find and otherwise stick to her favourite flowing tops and dresses, or put together a buzz-worthy ensemble that might help get some positive publicity for the designer.

Fashion, she adds, is one of the easiest — and favourite — parts of her job.

What are some things in her wardrobe? Turquoise jewelry, Emilio Pucci prints, a vintage Halston cape (she's still waiting for the right occasion to wear it) and the cheetah jeans and black flapper dress from her recent photo shoot for Ann Taylor's fall ad campaign. Hudson is reprising her role as spokesmodel.

Kate Hudson will be the face of clothing company Ann Taylor's fall 2012 campaign. ANN TAYLOR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I definitely have more of an easy style," she says. "I hate the word bohemian, but it sort of is."

Hudson is the first celebrity signed to Ann Taylor for three consecutive seasons, but there have been many other stars, including Demi Moore, Heidi Klum and Katie Holmes.

Hudson says she can't worry too much about those who came before her — or will come after her.

"When you're in this business as actresses and models, you know everyone is replaceable. Enjoy it while it's happening. Take each day as it's presented to you."

However, Hudson is planning for the day when she has a beneficiary of her healthy fashion habit.

"I archive a lot of my pieces — from when Stella (McCartney) was at Chloe and Tom Ford at YSL and Gucci," Hudson says.

"My mom never kept her clothes. She was big into (Azzedine) Alaia clothes and she didn't keep them! She also had Ossie Clark dresses from the '70s, and I never got to wear them, so I decided when and if I have a little girl in my life, maybe she'll be into them and want to go into my closet someday."

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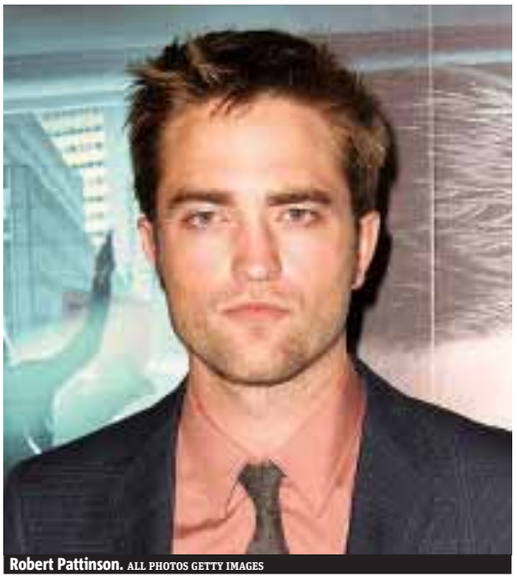
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Robert Pattinson. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Pattinson talks cheating

Robert Pattinson obviously won't be releasing a statement — he'll let some pretty young blond do the talking next week. So for now, all we've got is his April chat in Vanity Fair, where he conveniently discussed affairs.

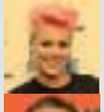
"There's a thing I've never got: That is, why do people cheat? I can understand the impulse," he says.

"But not how you can keep two relationships going at the same time for long. I'm not the casual-affair kind of guy. If I choose to be with someone, it's because I really want it. When I have a relationship, I'm 100 per cent into it."

Twitter

@katyperry
I always love seeing one single piece of confetti fall at an indie show.

@JimCarrey
The violence within us is being fully exploited by the gun sellers in America.Let's end r addiction and entitlement to violence.



@Pink
As far as I'm concerned- Christmas prep has started. And I'm also now a member of the QVC. For real? Yes- For real. Yaye!!!!! Help!!!!!!!!

@ActuallyNPH
My favorite thing about Paris is the 'double kiss on the cheek' greeting. It is both intimate and disarming. I'm totally stealing that.

The Word

Kristen Stewart 'deeply sorry' about affair

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

We always blamed Kristen Stewart's ever-present pout on her distaste for photographers. Maybe an extra weird rash. Possibly a Spanx situation. But we never suspected that the problem could be Robert Pattinson, her much more photogenic boyfriend and Twilight co-star.

It seems, however, that while Stewart's been parading down red carpets with Pattinson, she's also been having a fling with Rupert Sanders, her married Snow White and the Huntsman director.

Us Weekly has pretty incriminating photographs of the two snuggled up to each other in Los Angeles on July 17, just a few days before Stewart and Pattinson attended the Teen Choice Awards together.

Witnesses tell RadarOnline that Sanders, 41, and Stewart, 22, "were hardly able to keep their hands off one another," as they drove around L.A., stopping occasionally to make out in parking lots.

Kristen, what do you have to say for yourself?

"I'm deeply sorry for the hurt and embarrassment I've caused to those close to me and everyone this has affected," she said in a statement released yesterday.

"This momentary indiscretion has jeopardized the most important thing in my life, the person I love and respect the most, Rob. I love him, I love him, I'm so sorry."

Kris, take it from us: Making creepy, inappropriate public appeals to Robert Pattinson in the gossip columns doesn't work. We've been trying for years, and he doesn't bite.

Rupert Sanders

Sanders' wife not warned

Not to be outdone, Rupert Sanders issued his own apology shortly after Stewart.

"I am utterly distraught about the pain I have caused my family," the director said in a statement. "My beautiful wife and heavenly children are all I have in this world. I love them with all my heart. I am praying that we can get through this together."

As for Sanders' wife, Liberty Ross, we doubt she's accepting the apology anytime soon. The British model seemed to learn about the affair along with everyone else yesterday, and proceeded to have a mini Twitter meltdown.

Before deactivating her account, she followed @Us Weekly and tweeted quotes from Marilyn Monroe and Maya Angelou, then signed off with a simple "Wow" — the 2012 equivalent of waking up to the Love Actually DVD menu in a puddle of Ben and Jerry's.

'I did not cuss Janet out'

The dispute between members of the Jackson family over the location of matriarch Katherine Jackson apparently came to a head this week with an altercation between family members on the grounds of their Calabasas, Calif., estate, according to TMZ.

Janet, Jermaine and Randy Jackson stormed the house to confront the children of the late Michael Jackson — Prince, Paris and Blanket, leading to cursing and blows. The adults then reportedly attempted to coerce the kids into going to Arizona — where their legal guardian, Katherine, is resting — against their will.

The ongoing troubles have prompted lawyers for Michael's estate to write an open letter expressing their concern.

"We are concerned that we do what we can to protect them from undue influences, bullying, greed and other unfortunate circumstances," executors John Branca and John McClain say in the letter.

Meanwhile, Paris Jackson took to Instagram to refute claims of a fight, posting, "Dear TMZ, no one slapped anyone, and I did not cuss Janet out."

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Retro-inspired looks were seen throughout the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Swim 2013 in Miami Beach, where more than two dozen designers showcased their latest collections. Swimstyle specialists took a nod from days gone by, from high waist briefs and the pinup girl look of the 1950s to the Studio 54 and Dolce Vita eras of the '60s and '70s. Dive right in!

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Splash from the past

WHITE SANDS AUSTRALIA

Romantic looks were seen on the runway at White Sands Australia. "It's very, very girly," said designer Leah Madden. "I always try to do things very pretty but sexy and with an edge. But this year it's more pretty and more feminine."

Madden kept it simple for The Violet Hour collection. She used touches of ruffles, neon pastel colours (green) and a vintage floral print with large violets over a white palette to create the blissful looks.

DOLORES CORTES

Miami Beach was the inspiration for Spanish designer Dolores Cortes, who used vitamin colours and a touch of neon in her sophisticated collection.

Golden reflective laminates were superimposed on some pieces, while others had a mix of animal prints and bright stains to give the wild yet chic look. There were a ton of prints, some with a tie-dye effect. Bikinis included a multi-coloured bandeau top with an animal print bottom. Multiple patterns took over a one-piece and a monikini with bright pops of colour, and crochet and mesh also made appearances.

LISA BLUE

Kicking off swim week was the Lisa Blue collection, where Australian designer Lisa Burke featured a collection of very different styles.

The Enchantress collection opened the show with a white monokini with gold trimmings. The blue colour of the ocean was also seen on the goddess-like models walking slowly — enchantedly — down the runway.

Karina Smirnoff of Dancing with the Stars picked up the pace as she danced in a bright pink, ruffled-top bikini and a Flamenco-style long skirt for the second Flamenco-inspired collection, which included a one-shoulder bikini top with ruffles on the bottom piece.

NICOLITA

The Nicolita collection can be described as a collection of sexy swimwear with curve-flattering styles reminiscent of Cuba's alluring 1940s era — but with a California twist.

The Havana Nights Collection by designer Nicole Di Rocco drew inspiration from her Cuban roots and experiences in Malibu with the help of singer Christina Milian, who said finding the right fabrics was more difficult than she had expected.

The collection had plenty of coverups that can transition from day to night, including a short layered animal-print skirt and high waisted blue pants.

ALL PHOTOS: J PAT CARTER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AGUA BENDITA

Cropped jackets with military hardware or maritime accents were part of the Lovely Heroes collection for Agua Bendita. Designers Catalina Alvarez and Mariana Hinestroza wanted to pay homage to the 700 men and women who work on each of the hand-made garments in Colombia.

The collection included military, maritime, cowboy and neon-inspired styles that were embellished with beads, appliques and sequins. The AB logo was emblazoned on the espadrilles the models wore and a hot pink plastic handbag that opened the show.

RED CARTER

The story of Red Carter's life and recent move from Miami to New York City inspired his latest collection, which included shiny disco balls and chunky geometric heels.

The art deco looks included black and white pieces in architectural shapes and a hint of vintage feeling with geometric hairstyles. There was a tangerine deep-V ruffle one-piece and art deco-inspired demi-underwire and skirted hipster bottom. Many had hints of glitter or gold such as in the black and white "glitter bomb" monikini.

The second part, the "Brazilesque with disco balls" looks included a safari bandeau and hipster bottom, a black handkerchief bandeau and safari hipster bottom.

On the Web

Abby Larson, editor and founder of the stylish wedding website, on making your celebration Pinterest gold.

5 Accessories in fall's coolest colour — indigo

Indigo is everywhere in fall collections, and home decor is no exception. A pop of true-blue in anything from your coffee maker to your comforter to your floor coverings will add a richness and depth to any room in your home, for a look that is truly modern and sophisticated.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

1 Nespresso Pixi C60

The smartest and smallest of all the Nespresso machines; travels well. $200, TheBay.com

2 Found Decanter Lamp with linen shade

Boho chic glass jugs glow with the addition of light. $498, Anthropologie.com

3 1951 Barstool

1950's Navy hospital chairs get reproduced for vintage chic. $465, DWR.com.

4 Pulse Blue Drinkware

Textured dots add a modern grip. $32 for four, BedBathAndBeyond.com

5

It's All Mine Now

48x60 reproduction painting by Karl Lohnes. Who else would you rather have tea with? $329, CB2.com

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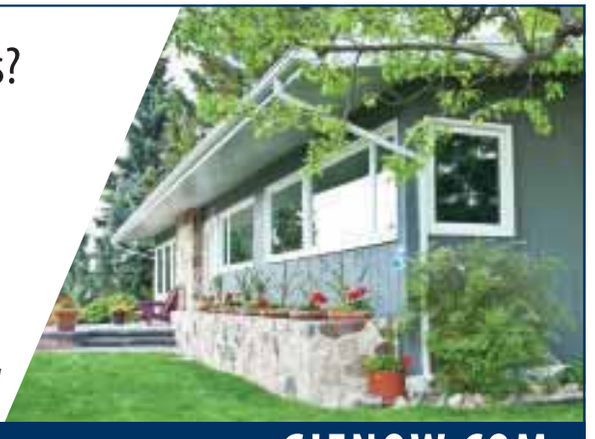

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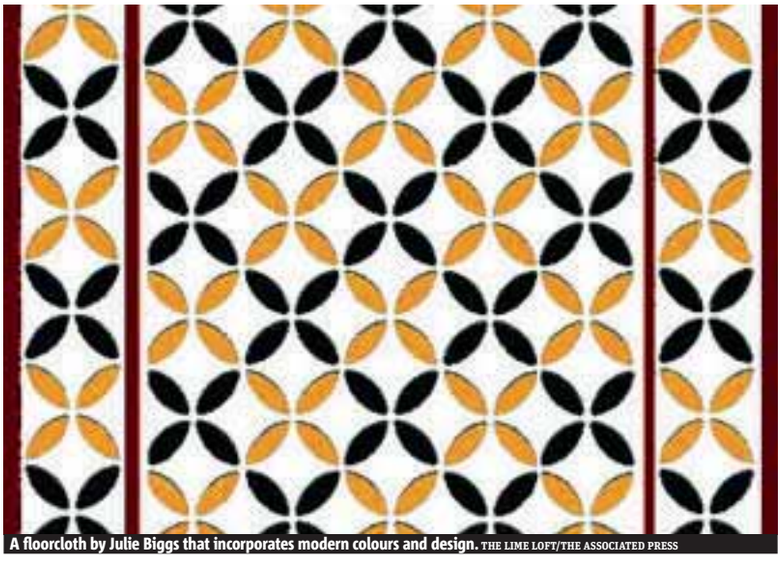

A floorcloth by Julie Biggs that incorporates modern colours and design. THE LIME LOFT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

17th Century decor revival

Trends. Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and George Adams had floorcloths in their homes and you can too

If you were the artistic wife of a sailor back in 17th Century France, you didn't let modest means deter you from decorating your home in style.

You transformed your husband's old sails into beautifully painted floor coverings that rivaled those in wealthy homes. British sailors started bringing them back as souvenirs, and a fad with impressive reach and longevity was born.

The heavy canvases — called oilcloths in Britain and floorcloths when the art came to North America — were painted with simple or elaborate designs depending on the skill level of the artists (often house painters) and the financial status of homeowners. The term oilcloth probably refers to the oil-based paints and linseed oil coatings applied to the canvases.

Waterproof, insect resistant and sturdy, floorcloths became just as popular in American homes. Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and John Adams had floorcloths in their homes; you can still see one at Mount Vernon — a solid green, as Washington sought to simulate the grass outdoors inside.

Near the start of the 20th Century, the advent of mass-produced linoleum sent labour-intensive floorcloths out of style, but in the '60s and again more recently, artists have rediscovered the craft.

Julie Biggs of Pickerington, Ohio, paints hers with contemporary designs like polka dots or naif flowers in hues of pink, turquoise, yellow and charcoal grey. A green polka dot rug would look fresh and young in a child's room, for example. She's playing with other ideas, too.

"My favourite technique right now is a layered, worn look, which includes several layers of designs on one floorcloth," Biggs says. "Once I'm finished painting each layer, I sand off some of the top to let the sub-layers peek through. It gives the floorcloth a warm, loved look that's very charming. Recently, I've been inspired by the colours and designs of modern fabrics and quilts."

Weathersfield, Vt.-based Lisa Curry Mair crafts her rugs in a 200-year-old farmhouse adorned with many of her creations. She brings a love of history, children's book illustrations and mathematics to her designs.

A mariner's compass, an artichoke and a woven, cane-like pattern are among her bestsellers, and she also does custom designs. The hardest thing to get across, she says, is how durable the pieces are, and that's largely due to the number of "hobby" crafters producing inferior product.

"They use lightweight canvas, cheap paint and finishes. A floorcloth in a high-traffic kitchen should stand up to dogs, kids and all kinds of abuse," Mair says.

A good heavy floorcloth should lie flat with no bumps or ripples, she says. "When I make floorcloths for museums, they must stand up to 30,000 visitors a year walking on them."

Lucia Blum of Wilmington, N.C., gives rugs a folk-art look. Cat Nap features a black and white cat surrounded by the stuff of cat dreams: goldfish, birds and mice. Bunny romps on a green field circled by carrots and radishes.

Artist Faith Wilson, who will be showing at the American Craft Exposition in Evanston, Ill., in August, takes a painterly approach to her often haunting, evocative canvases. Gingko leaves, conifers and little black birds inhabit softly hued, sepia-washed backgrounds.

If you're interested in trying your hand at the floorcloth craft yourself, HGTV's website offers instructions. Mair's website has a how-to video plus a supplies shop.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"A floorcloth in a high-traffic kitchen should stand up to dogs, kids and all kinds of abuse."

Lisa Curry Mair, contemporary floorcloth crafter

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SCHOLARSHIPSCANADA.com

A prescription for chocoholics

Cookbook authors Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat spend a lot of time in the kitchen creating and testing recipes, but they also like to be pampered by their families.

These Rx Brownies With Fudge Frosting are great for when you want to sit back and get the little ones involved.

The decadent brownies, found in Bite Me, are a prescription for any chocoholic, say Albert and Gnat. They would make an ideal treat to cap a brunch or any time you need a chocolate fix.

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Coat a 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. Line with parchment paper.

2. For the brownies, in a microwave safe bowl, combine chocolate and butter. Melt on high heat for 1 minute, stir and melt for 30 seconds more or until chocolate and butter are melted and smooth.

3. In a large bowl, whisk sugar and eggs. Add chocolate mixture and flour, stirring until flour has disappeared. Spread in prepared pan and bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool in pan for 15 minutes before removing. Cool completely on wire rack before frosting.

4. Frosting: In a large saucepan, mix together sugar, cocoa powder, milk, butter and corn syrup. Heat to boiling, stirring frequently. Boil for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Let cool for 10 minutes. Whisk in icing sugar until smooth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/BITE ME TOO BY JULIE ALBERT AND LISA GNAT

Ingredients

- 4 squares unsweetened chocolate, chopped
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) butter
- 500 ml (2 cups) sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) flour

Fudge Frosting

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sugar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cocoa powder, sifted
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) milk
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) corn syrup
- 250 ml (1 cup) icing sugar

Rx Brownies With Fudge Frosting

This recipe is ideal for a post-brunch dessert. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Book of the week

Take a bite out of easy & fun food

Having fun with food, family and friends is the focus of the cookbook Bite Me Too by sisters Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat.

The release is peppered with humour, trivia, pop culture references and user-friendly recipes that feature ingredients you have in your pantry or that can be picked up during your regular grocery store run.

Chapter headings in Bite Me Too include Amuse Me (appetizers), Fowl Me (poultry), Hook Me (fish and seafood) and Toss Me (salads). There are 176 recipes in total. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spiced And Grilled Angel Food Cake. For contrast, top with ice cream

1. In bowl, combine strawberries and 2 tablespoons of sugar. Mix; set aside.

2. In bowl, use electric mixer to whip heavy cream until soft peaks form. Sprinkle in 2 tablespoons of sugar and the lemon zest (reserve lemon juice). Continue beating until stiff peaks form. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

3. Heat grill to medium-high.

4. In saucepan over medium heat, combine butter, lemon juice, cinnamon, cardamom and the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar. Heat, stirring, until butter melted and sugar has dissolved. Use pastry brush to coat all sides of cake slices with butter mix.

5. Place cake slices on grill and cook 30 seconds per side or until grill marks appear and cakes are toasted. Serve each slice topped with whipped cream and berries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 quart strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 6 tbsp sugar, divided
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 4 tbsp butter
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground cardamom
- 13-oz angel food cake, cut into 8 slices

Marry tangy citrus and sweet plums in Spiced Plum Crisp

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.

2. In a small bowl, whisk together cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, cloves, allspice, salt, oil and honey. Add oats and almonds, then toss to coat evenly. Spread mixture evenly over prepared baking sheet and bake for 10 minutes or until golden brown and crisp, stirring once or twice.

3. Meanwhile, make yogurt topping. In a small bowl, stir together yogurt, honey and almond extract. Set aside.

4. In skillet, combine plums, honey, water, salt, lemon zest and orange zest. Heat over medium, stirring occasionally, until plums are just softened, about 10 minutes.

5. In a small bowl, combine lemon juice, orange juice and cornstarch. Stir into plums and bring up to a simmer for 1 minute or until juices are thickened.

Spoon warm plums into individual bowls, topping each with some of the crisp topping and a spoonful of the yogurt topping. Serve immediately.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR, AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients

Crisp Topping

- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cinnamon
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground ginger
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) nutmeg
- 0.5 (1/8 tsp) ground cloves
- 0.5 (1/8 tsp) allspice
- Pinch salt
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) canola oil
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) honey
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) rolled oats
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) sliced almonds

Yogurt Topping

- 1 container (150 g/5.3 oz) plain fat-free Greek yogurt
- 5 ml (1 tsp) honey
- Several drops almond extract

Plums

- 6 plums, quartered and pitted
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) honey
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) water
- Pinch salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) lemon zest
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) orange zest
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Juice of 1 orange
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) cornstarch

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Bettman lays out league's proposal

Donald Fehr and the NHL players have a little more to mull over.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said the league tabled the remaining elements of its opening contract offer to the NHL Players' Association on Wednesday. It was an expansion on the opening proposal the league delivered July 13, which included a decreased share of hockey-related revenue, term limits on contracts and a 22 per cent salary rollback. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gary Bettman GETTY IMAGES FILE

MLB

Arencibia breaks hand, expected to miss six weeks

Toronto Blue Jays catcher JP Arencibia is expected to miss about six weeks after fracturing his right hand in the second inning of Wednesday's game against the Oakland A's.

Arencibia appeared to injure the hand on a foul ball by Brandon Inge during Oakland's eight-run inning.

The 26-year-old finished the inning behind the plate but Jeff Mathis batted for him in the bottom of the second.

Arencibia is batting .242 with 16 homers and 50 RBIs so far this season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ernie Els speaks at a press conference next to the Claret Jug trophy Wednesday at the Hamilton Golf and County Club in Ancaster, Ont. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Els hopes to add to his trophy haul

Golf. British Open winner has had little time to practise ahead of Canadian Open

Ernie Els arrived at the RBC Canadian Open with one trophy already in tow. He's hoping to leave with another.

Despite a whirlwind couple days that followed his victory at the British Open, Els expressed confidence that he's still got enough left in the tank to be competitive at the third-oldest championship in golf.

"I feel very fresh," he said Wednesday afternoon.

Els only managed to get in five practice holes at Hamilton Golf and Country Club this week, but thinks his stellar play from Royal Lytham and St. Annes should carry over.

The celebration following his fourth major championship was more low key than the ones that came before it. After pulling out a one-shot victory over Adam Scott on Sunday, he returned home to London for a small party with family and friends, then had a lazy Monday.

He travelled to Hamilton, Ont., on Tuesday morning, getting in a quick practice session before a helicopter arrived to whisk him to downtown Toronto for a "Right to Play" dinner. On Wednesday, Els played a round with RBC CEO Gord Nixon at his home course.

The itinerary left virtually no time for preparation at the charming, tree-lined Hamilton layout that is hosting the Canadian Open for a fifth time.

"I don't know if it's such a big disadvantage because a lot of times when you don't play a course, you don't know where the trouble is," Els said with a chuckle. "So maybe that's a good thing. You get your yardage, you hit it to your spots."

As an added bonus, the South African brought the Claret Jug along for the ride and proudly displayed it during his interview session with reporters Wednesday. His presence added some buzz to an event that remains in a tough spot on the PGA Tour's calendar. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taking part

- Besides Els, the biggest names in the field are Matt Kuchar, Hunter Mahan and Jim Furyk — and it's no coincidence that all four have sponsorship agreements with RBC.
- But Furyk said he was also drawn back by the traditional H.S. Colt-designed course where he won the first of his two Canadian Open titles in 2006.

MLB. Cal Ripken Jr.'s mom safe after abduction

Cal Ripken Jr.'s 74-year-old mother was found with her hands bound in the back seat of her car Wednesday after being kidnapped at gunpoint a day earlier at her home outside Baltimore and driven around blindfolded by her abductor, police and neighbours said.

Investigators do not know the kidnapper's motive and there was no ransom demand for Vi Ripken's release, Aberdeen police Chief Henry Trabert said at a news conference.

The gunman forced Ripken into her silver Lincoln Continental between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Tuesday, police said. She was found bound and unharmed but shaken at about 6:15 a.m. Wednesday near her home in Aberdeen, about 48 kilometres northeast of Baltimore.

Asked if police believe the kidnapper knew who he was abducting, Trabert did not answer, saying police don't know the motive or if the suspect has any ties to the Ripken family. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"He lit cigarettes for her, they stopped for food."

Vi Ripken's next-door neighbour Gus Kowaleski, who added that she said the gunman told her he would not hurt her

MLB

Phillies, Hamels agree to deal

Cole Hamels and the Philadelphia Phillies have agreed to a $144-million US, six-year contract that prevents the 2008 World Series MVP from becoming a free agent after the season.

A source told The Associated Press about the deal on condition of anonymity because there has been no official announcement.

It's the second-largest contract for a pitcher behind the $161-million deal the New York Yankees gave CC Sabathia in December 2008.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB. Miami sends Hanley Ramirez to L.A.

The Marlins are trading stars, just like they did following their championships in 2003 and 2007. Team president David Samson says this exodus is different.

"A fire sale, I guess, comes after a World Series victory," he said Wednesday. "I don't know how you would call it a fire sale to trade players of a team that's underperforming so spectacularly. We are just doing everything we can to win more games."

Former NL batting champion Hanley Ramirez became the latest player to leave, traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers with left-handed reliever Randy Choate for right-hander Nathan Eovaldi and minor-league pitcher Scott McGough.

On Monday, the Marlins sent pitcher Anibal Sanchez and infielder Omar Infante to the Detroit Tigers for pitching prospect Jacob Turner and two minor leaguers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hanley Ramirez GETTY IMAGES FILE

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

A day after matching the Philadelphia Flyers' $110-million US offer sheet for Shea Weber, the Nashville Predators were in celebration mode. But "the biggest signing in franchise history" for Nashville has forced the Flyers back to the drawing board. Scan the code for the story.

Canada can't keep up with world champion in opener

Soccer. Coach Herdman calls loss to Japan a learning experience

Canada's women's soccer team opened its London Olympic campaign with a 2-1 loss to Japan on Wednesday, a result that left coach John Herdman "scratching one side" of his head and "feeling OK on the other."

Melissa Tancredi scored the lone goal for the No. 7 Canadians, who managed to battle back against the reigning World Cup champion. Japan took a 2-0 lead into halftime and had the Canadians on their heels most of the night.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game tonight; they're world champions and world champions for a reason," Herdman said afterward.

"But it's the first game in the tournament, there's another five to go for us hopefully, and I think we've learned some lessons tonight."

The game marked Canada's first competition of the Games, two days before the opening ceremonies in London.

The Canadians need to finish top-two in their pool — or be one of the two best third-place teams — to advance to the quarter-finals of the 12-team tournament.

The Japanese squad that shocked the United States to win the World Cup last summer lived up to its billing, passing and moving with speed and precision.

"They're quick, they're crafty, they get in those tight little spaces that you don't think they can get into," said defender Lauren Sesselmann. "They're an incredible team."

Nahomi Kawasumi and team captain Aya Miyama scored for Japan.

Kawasumi sprinted onto a clever back-heel pass from Shinobu Ohno in the 33rd minute. Miyama scored on a header from a cross in the 44th minute to beat Canadian goalkeeper Erin McLeod.

Tancredi capitalized on the one really decent shot Canada had, connecting on a cross from Rhian Wilkinson in the 55th minute.

"At 2-0 down anything could have happened, we could easily have let the game go," said Canada's star striker Christine Sinclair. "But I think in the second half we came out and played pretty well. Gives us some confidence and in terms of goal difference, not a bad result against them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Christine Sinclair, left, and Japan's Azusa Iwashimizu battle for the ball in Coventry on Wednesday. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hesjedal's 'one-man show' arrives in London

Canadian cyclist Ryder Hesjedal arrives at St. Pancras King's Cross train station in London on Wednesday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryder Hesjedal arrived at the Olympics to a crowd Wednesday. But the Giro d'Italia winner will largely be on his own Saturday in the men's road race.

While world champion Mark Cavendish can rely on the help of four British teammates, the 31-year-old from Victoria will be going it alone as Canada did not collect enough points to qualify any other riders.

But the focus was on Hesjedal on Wednesday as he walked into a Canadian media crush at St. Pancras International after getting off a train from Europe.

Quoted

"They've clearly shown how strong they are. They're going to take the initiative, they're going to control the race. So it will be everyone against them."

Ryder Hesjedal on the British cycling team led by Mark Cavendish and Tour de France winner Bradley Wiggins

The six-foot-two, 159-pound Hesjedal arrived wheeling one of his own Cervelo bikes, neatly packaged in a giant canvas bag. His other rides had been shipped ahead of time.

The laid-back Hesjedal, under the spotlight at his third Olympics, did his best to take all the attention in stride.

"It's exciting. This is a little overwhelming," said the former mountain biker. "But I've been training and focusing on this event. We'll see how I do Saturday and following in the time trial."

Hesjedal had fellow Canadians Michael Barry and Svein Tuft on his side at the 2008 Games road race in Beijing, where Barry was eighth, Hesjedal 55th and Tuft 58th. But he will have to look to others to help him this time.

This time he is, in his words, "a one-man show." A good scenario for him is being part of a small group that breaks away from the field early.

"I can ride with a small group and there won't be many guys with teammates at that point," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Doping

Nine banned as Games approach

Nine track athletes were suspended ahead of the London Olympics for doping, including three who were caught in retests of samples from last year's world championships, the IAAF said Wednesday.

The governing body said six were caught in biological passport tests, which measure changes in an athlete's blood profile. The others were sanctioned after retroactive testing of blood and urine samples from the worlds in Daegu, South Korea.

Eight of the athletes received two-year suspensions, while one was handed a four-year ban.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

Morgan stars for U.S. in comeback win over France

Alex Morgan scored twice as the U.S. women's soccer team rallied from an early 2-0 deficit Wednesday to open its Olympics with a 4-2 win over France.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Megan Rapinoe jumps into Alex Morgan's arms on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

Federer, Azarenka named top seeds

The International Tennis Federation named Roger Federer and Victoria Azarenka the No. 1-seeded Olympic singles players. The ITF says it awarded the seedings based on the ATP and WTA rankings of July 23. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Swimming

"We're a lot more laid back this time around, not only myself but as a team."

Fourteen-time gold medallist Michael Phelps on the U.S. swim team's outlook ahead of Olympic competition

Olympic diving: United we fall

Divers Ruoling Chen and Hao Wang of China practise synchronized diving during a training session Wednesday at the Aquatics Centre in Olympic Park in London. ADAM PRETTY/GETTY IMAGES

Despatie facing biggest Olympic challenge yet

Diving. But 27-year-old from Laval, Que., envisions 'better-than-ever' results despite recent head injury

Alexandre Despatie has never been the type to shy way from challenges. And more often than not, he's overcome them.

But on the eve of his fourth Olympics, the veteran diver admits the London Games will be the biggest challenge of his career.

Despatie, 27, is coming off a tough year. He missed most of 2011 because of bursitis and tendinitis in his left knee.

And last month, he had a brush with disaster when he hit his head on the board while training in Spain.

Quoted

"Being injured is one thing, hurting is another.... When the head isn't there properly, it's difficult to turn the page and get back to positive thoughts."
Alexandre Despatie

The deep cut on the forehead as well as the concussion he suffered nearly derailed his latest Olympic dreams.

As a result, Despatie will have to surpass himself if he is to add to his Olympic medal total.

"I have a big challenge in front of me but I'm going to the Games to do better than ever," he told The Canadian Press. "And that's what the Olympics are all about — the desire to surpass oneself. I usually overcome challenges and that's what I'm going to do."

The three-time world champion and two-time Olympic medal-winner knows what he is talking about.

Four months before the Beijing Games in 2008, Despatie fractured his foot in an injury that prevented him from training in the run-up to the Olympics. Then, once in China, he suffered back pains that had him fearing the worst.

In the end, however, he still won silver in the three-metre dive.

"Mentally, it was super difficult," he said. "Healing physically isn't enough. You've got to get your confidence back."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Love for sweet science comes naturally to Spencer

Boxing. Daily mental and physical challenges lured national champion into the ring

Canadian boxer Mary Spencer after training in Windsor, Ont. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Twenty-six seconds. That's all it took for legendary Windsor, Ont., boxing coach Charlie Stewart to fully understand he had something special on his hands

A girl can throw a lot of punches in 26 seconds.

Wham-wham-wham came the initial flurry from Mary Spencer, her challenger back peddling around the ring. Finally, a devastating left hook. Thunk. Her six-foot foe hit the canvas like a felled redwood.

"Out she went," Stewart recalls of Spencer's opponent in his protégé's debut. "That was the end of her and the end of her boxing career. It was just the start for Mary."

That truncated bout a decade ago can be flagged as a significant first step on a path that would eventually include three world championships and eight national titles.

It's a path that will see the Ojibwa athlete from Cape Croker First Nation at Wiarton, Ont., become one of the faces of Canada's team at the London Games.

But the true start, the moment boxing seized Spencer and refused to let go, arrived the first day she first walked into Stewart's cinderblock bunker of a gym a few months earlier. She presented herself at Windsor Amateur Boxing Club in 2002, looking for a new challenge. Afterwards, she stood outside, so exhilarated she was almost oblivious to the falling rain. Her dream of being a boxing champion had taken root.

"My very first day, I walked into the gym and it reeked like leather, sweat and blood all mixed together," the 27-year-old recalls.

"It was disgusting and it was crowded. There were a lot of fighters who were training and I thought, what an amazing sport. Everyone is in pain here, whether they're getting hit or just pushing their bodies. It was just inspiring for me and I wanted to do it."

A future champion was born. It certainly helped that she, as Stewart has put it, "hits like a man." So did her willingness to get up at 5 a.m. and start her six-hour-plus workout days an hour later. It's a routine she's followed six days a week for 10 years.

"I love that it's hard. I love that I have to push mental and physical limits on a daily basis," Spencer said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Qualification

Rocky road to London

Mary Spencer is a decorated boxing champion, but an Olympic appearance in London was not a given, even last month.

A stunning loss to Anna Laurell of Sweden at the world championship put her Olympic fate in the hands of the International Boxing Association, which determines wild-card invitees to the Games. After a prolonged wait, Spencer received one in June. She called it a "second chance."

After the loss to Laurell, Spencer didn't sulk and wait around to learn her fate. She hit the gym to train even harder for an Olympic spot she couldn't be certain was hers.

"This is not the way I planned on qualifying, but now that I've reached that milestone, my goal is the same," said Spencer. "It's to bring back the gold medal. It's going to make it extra sweet because of the circumstances."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Munich

Widows of massacre victims call for silence at opening ceremony

The widows of two Israeli Olympians killed by Palestinian gunmen at the 1972 Munich Olympics are urging spectators to stage a silent protest during Friday's opening ceremony for the London Games.

Ankie Spitzer and Ilana Romano are demanding that London organizers recognize their husbands' deaths and honour them at Olympic Stadium 40 years after the slayings.

The two women have asked audience members to stand in silence when International Olympic Committee chief Jacques Rogge rises to speak at Friday's ceremony. Since Olympic organizers have rejected a moment of silence for the 11 slain Israeli athletes and coaches, the widows say the silent protest will be a victory in their fight to have the men remembered at the proper place and time.

"They were not accidental tourists," Spitzer told reporters Wednesday, her hoarse voice rising with indignation. "They came with dreams and came home in coffins."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flag-raising. Canada welcomed to Olympics

A medieval pageant with a 20th-century Queen soundtrack marked Canada's flag-raising and official welcome to the Olympic athletes' village in London.

With just over 200 nations competing in the 2012 Summer Games, countries had to be welcomed in batches. The Maple Leaf's introduction to the central plaza Wednesday evening was accompanied by flags raised from Portugal, Morocco, Monaco and Serbia.

Britain's National Youth Theatre set the scene of a quirky court. Dressed in colourful jester garb, they cartwheeled and rode bikes down the plaza singing Bicycle Race, one of several songs from legendary British rock band Queen adapted for the ceremony. They were followed by athletes and officials from all five countries.

"This is my first Olympics, so I didn't know what to expect, but it was full of energy," said Vancouver swimmer Blake Worsley.

Performers executed backflips during a soulful version of We Are the Champions. A representative from each country was summoned to the stage to meet the village deputy mayor, British Olympic swimmer Duncan Goodhew, before the country's anthem played.

Canadian chef de mission Mark Tewksbury introduced himself to Goodhew as a fellow swimmer. They are of different Olympic eras. Goodhew won his gold in 1980, while Tewksbury's came in 1992.

The half-hour flag-raising ceremony, attended by Canada's Gov. Gen. David Johnston, provided pomp and ceremony for the Canadian athletes who won't participate in the opening ceremony Friday at Olympic Stadium.

The athletes' village at Olympic Park in London's East End is massive and will house 16,000 residents at its peak. Canada's quarters sit on the east end of the park.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mark Tewksbury, the Canadian chef de mission for London, is seen during the official flag-raising ceremony on Wednesday. COC/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You can be pretty stubborn when the mood takes you and it is likely to take you today. You may discover though that you are not the only one who knows how to dig in their heels.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
No amount of compromise will work today, so be ready to fight for what you believe in. When it comes to willpower, you have more than most but a rival may not be as weak as they look.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Different people see things in different ways and if you can accept that, you won't have too many problems today. But if you insist the world agrees with you then you could find yourself in a lonely place.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Make sure you keep a sense of perspective over the next 24 hours, especially where money is concerned. What you own and earn is important, of course, but cash can't buy you the kind of love that you crave.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You can't help but be assertive and ambitious but don't go to extremes and start making the kind of demands of other people that you would never accept for yourself. You need more friends, not more enemies.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You seem to be asking yourself a lot of serious questions of late, but are you getting any intelligent answers? If not, maybe you should loosen up a bit and not take life so seriously – then the answers will come.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you go back on a promise today, you will regret it later. You must live up to your obligations, at home and at work because if you don't, you will let everyone down — including yourself.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
What happens today may shock you but you should have seen it coming. Also, it's unlikely to be as bad as you think, so don't overreact. What changes cannot be unchanged, no matter how forceful you may be.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
After being kept out of the loop for so long, you will discover what has been going on. It's unlikely to be as bad as you feared. It may even be good if you choose to take a long-term outlook.

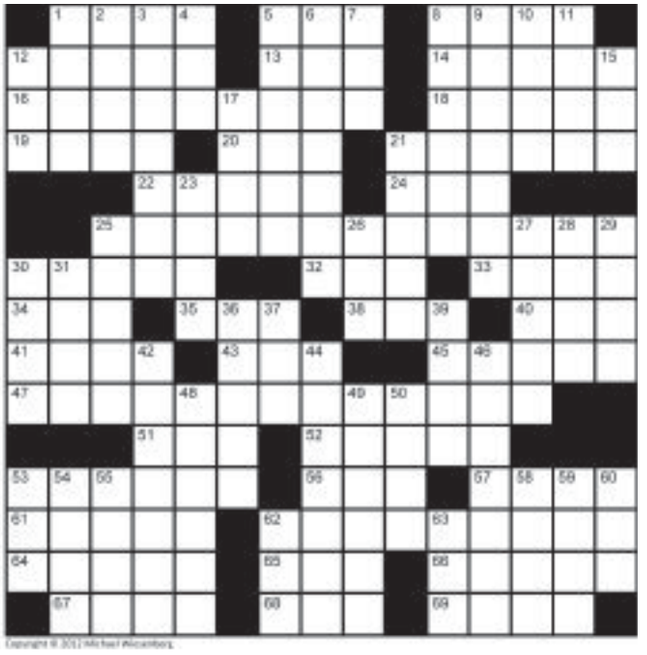
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Mind planet Mercury united with Pluto today suggests you need to take a more positive view of what's going on in the world. It's not all doom and gloom you know, in fact there are marvels in every direction.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Conflict of one kind or another is inevitable today and although that may not sound like very good news it has to happen. Only when the air is cleared can you all start to breathe more easily.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The pressure has been cranking up for quite some time and over the next few days it may even become intolerable. But you are tougher than you look and will rise to the challenge. Give it your all. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Prime Ministers

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Prime Minister Chrétien
5. Where to find *The Sopranos*
8. Most common first name among Canadian PMs
12. Desperado chasers
13. Tax return rvw.
14. *Das Boot* setting
16. See 62-Across
18. Atoll explosion
19. Old dagger
20. It flows from Alberta
21. Mountainous regions of planets
22. Like some flowers
24. ___ de Cologne
25. Prime Minister April 20, 1968-June 4, 1979 and March 3, 1980-June 30, 1984
30. Surrounded by
32. Legal matter
33. Montréal, Québec, Maritimes locale
34. ___ Vegas
35. California Bay Area's largest airport, for short
38. Some in Québec
40. Letters ending an email or texted request
41. IMO cousin
43. Her: Ger.
45. Swimming (in)
47. First Prime Minister born after Confederation and only one to represent a Manitoba riding
51. Switch positions
52. Immune system component
53. Third Prime Minister, June 16, 1891-November 24, 1892
56. "Am __ trouble!"
57. Cowardly Lion player
61. "Mea ___": "my fault"
62. With 16-Across, second Prime Minister, November 7, 1873-October 8, 1878
64. First Radiohead single
65. Choice word
66. Prime Minister St. Laurent
67. Ill-mannered
68. 33-Acr. summer
69. Stuns

Down
1. ___ of Arc
2. Action-denoting suffix
3. Showed hospitality at the door
4. Born
5. Less clear
6. Manufacturer
7. "___ to Joy"
8. Alaska capital
9. Force (upon)
10. Certain gardener
11. US space gp.
12. In short, they served Canada
15. Sporty Audis
17. Film genre
21. To the point
23. Brief bylaws
25. Affirm
26. United spinoff
27. "___ apple every day to keep the doctor away"
28. Garage sale stipulation
29. Zion's locale
30. James Bond's *Octopussy* car, informally
31. Bryn ___ College: women's liberal arts college near Philadelphia
36. Premier
37. Electrical-impedance unit whose symbol is an omega
39. Satirist Mort
42. Cried "Yee-haw!"
44. Changed the bathroom decor
46. "What have we here?"
48. Open a package, maybe
49. Most freezing
50. '70s babies are part of this
53. USC : Pac 10 :: UNC : ___
54. New Westminster, BC-born Mason portrayer
55. Blue in Québec
58. ___ chori: for two voices, musically
59. "We have met the enemy and ___ us": Pogo quote
60. Monopoly utils.
62. Yes
63. In the manner of

Yesterday's crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

			5		6	8		1
4	9		2					7
					3			
	5	8	7				1	4
7	4				2	3	5	
			1					
2					8		7	6
5		3	6		4			

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	8	1	5	7	4	9	3	6
9	5	6	1	3	8	7	2	4
4	3	7	2	9	6	8	1	5
7	2	5	3	1	9	6	4	8
6	1	3	4	8	7	5	9	2
8	9	4	6	5	2	1	7	3
1	4	8	7	6	3	2	5	9
5	6	2	9	4	1	3	8	7
3	7	9	8	2	5	4	6	1

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2006 HYUNDAI SANTA FE LIMITED	$14,995	$7,198	$8,797	$8,888	$39	No reserve
2005 SATURN VUE	$12,995	$8,198	$5,797	$9,888	$44	No reserve
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2008 TOYOTA YARIS 3DR	$15,995	$9,198	$7,797	$10,888	$41	Low reserve
2011 HYUNDAI ACCENT GL	$15,995	$10,198	$5,797	$11,888	$34	Low reserve
2005 HONDA ACCORD	$18,995	$10,198	$9,797	$11,888	$55	Low reserve
2006 HYUNDAI TUCSON	$15,995	$11,198	$5,797	$12,888	$59	Low reserve
2007 HONDA CIVIC	$17,995	$11,198	$7,797	$12,888	$49	Low reserve
2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA TOURING GL	$22,995	$15,198	$7,797	$16,888	$49	Low reserve
2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA TOURING GL	$22,995	$15,198	$7,797	$16,888	$49	Low reserve
2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA TOURING GL	$22,995	$15,198	$7,797	$16,888	$49	Low reserve
2011 KIA SOUL 4U	$21,995	$15,754	$6,241	$17,444	$51	Low reserve
2011 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS	$22,995	$16,198	$6,797	$17,888	$53	Low reserve
2007 TOYOTA CAMRY	$20,995	$16,198	$5,797	$17,888	$72	Low reserve
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2012 CHRYSLER 200 LTD	$30,995	$23,198	$8,797	$24,888	$75	Low reserve
2010 FORD EDGE SEL	$31,995	$24,198	$7,797	$25,888	$91	Low reserve
2010 FORD EXPEDITION XLT	$34,995	$24,198	$10,797	$25,888	$91	Low reserve
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